Alternative Design Concepts for Corridors and Access



James H. Dunlop 21 August 2008

Traffic Conference for Mobility and Safety



Ideal Driving Conditions



Usual Driving Conditions





Intersections



A place where two or more roads meet

Signalized Intersections

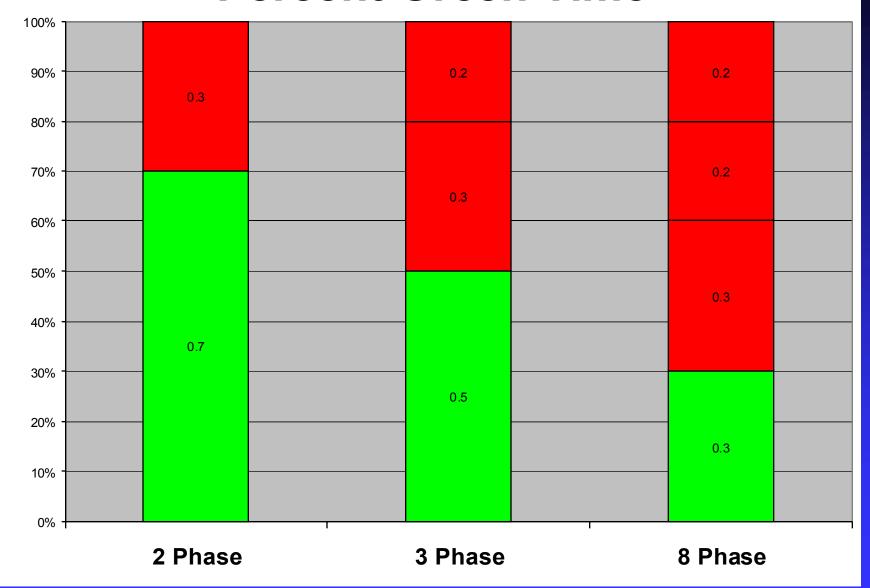
The Purpose of a Traffic Signal is to take the Right-of-Way assignment away from the main flow of traffic and assign it to lesser movements

Intersections

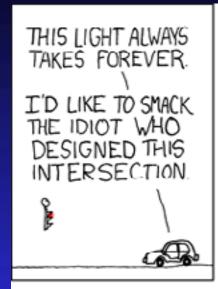


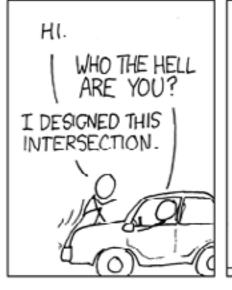
Eight-Phase Signal

Percent Green Time

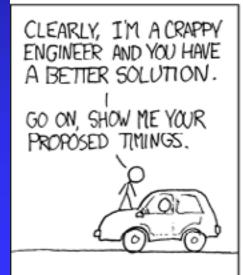


8-Phase Signal = Frustrated Drivers

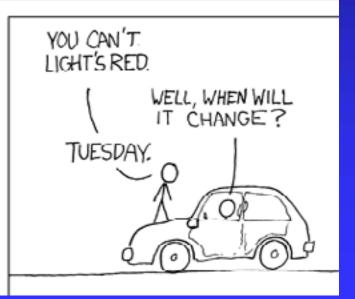




YOU'RE RIGHT - I SHOULD HAVE JUST MADE
THE LIGHT SHORTER! NEVER MIND THE
HOURS OF SIMULATION AND TESTING I DID.
NEVER MIND THAT THIS INTERSECTION
INTERACTS WITH IT'S NEIGHBORS IN A
COMPLICATED WAY AND IT TOOK ME A
WEEK TO WORK OUT
TIMING SEQUENCES THAT
AVOIDED TOTAL JAMS.







Intersections



Does every intersection need every movement served at the same location?



Alternative Intersection Design Concepts

- Separate conflicting movements
- Reduce conflicts
- Remove signals where possible
- Limit phases at signalized intersections
- Provide better signal coordination



Alternative Intersection Design Concepts

- Roundabouts
- Superstreets/Median U-Turns
- Jughandles
- Offset "T" Intersections
- Quadrant Lefts
- Continuous Flow Intersection



Roundabouts



Save two-lane bridges

Oval Roundabouts



Provide safe alternative for unusual intersections



Includes concept variations

- **⇒** Leftover with median U-turn
- No direct lefts
- Michigan Median Left
- "Left-out" Intersection
- Offset "T" Intersections



Leftover with median U-turn



No Direct Lefts





Michigan Lefts



"Left-Out" Intersection



Offset "T" Intersections

Jughandles



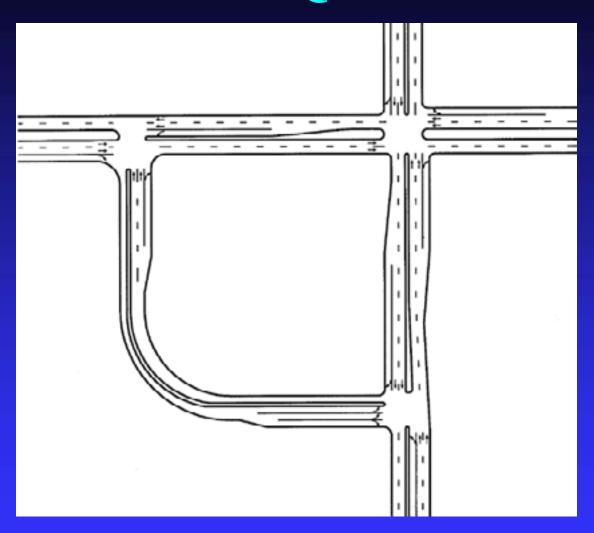
Main Street – No Lefts

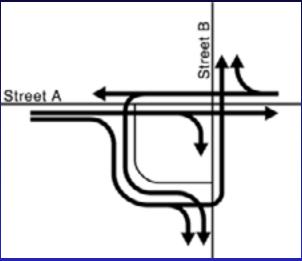
Offset "T" Intersections



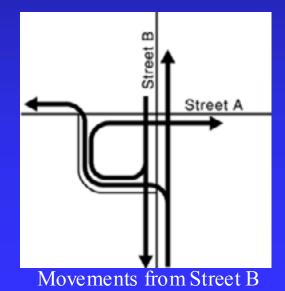
Two 3-Phase Signals Operate Better than an 8-Phase

Quadrant Lefts

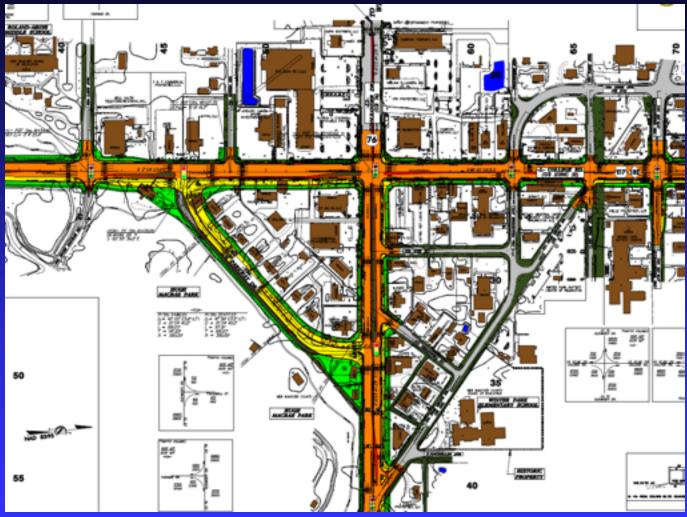




Movements from Street A



Quadrant Lefts



One 2-Phase and Two 3-Phase Signals

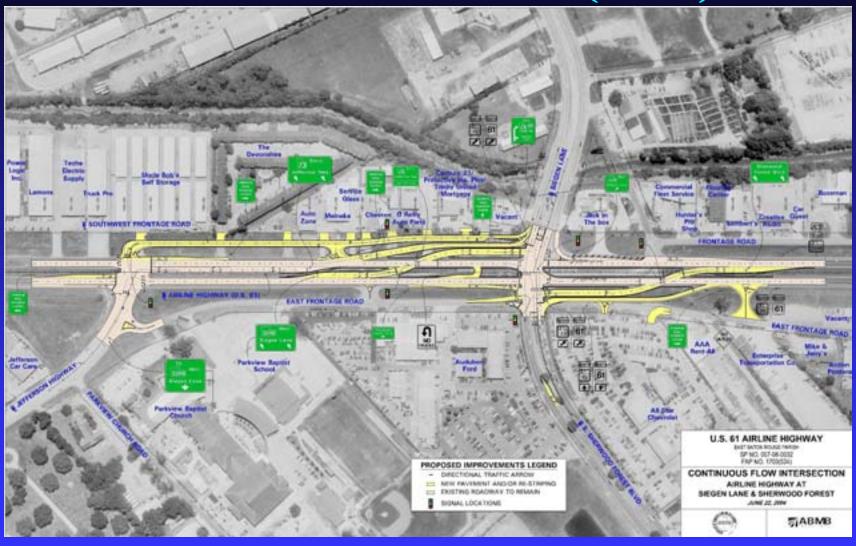
Left In/Out Access



Ingress and Egress Movements at Same Time



Continuous Flow (CFI)



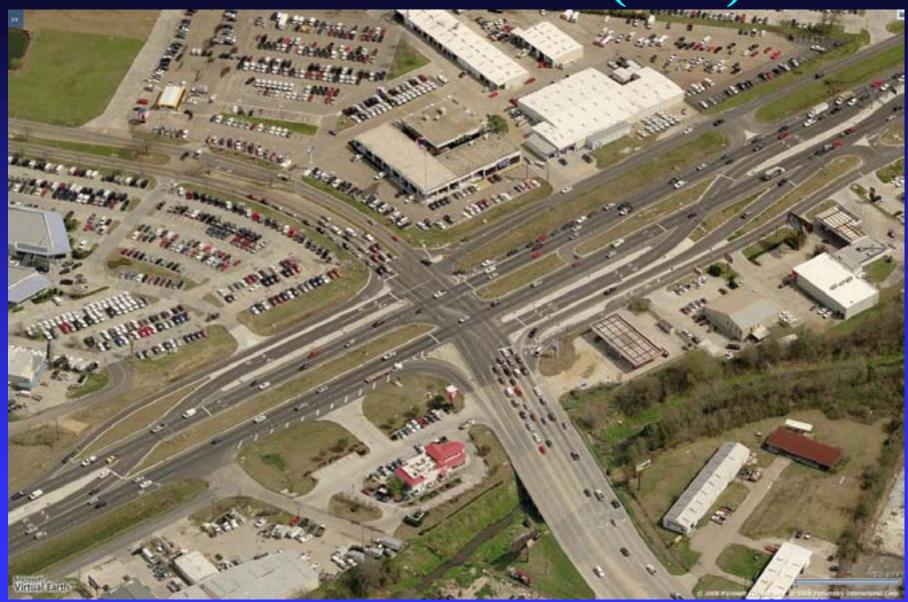
Left Turns Move During Same Phase as Throughs

Continuous Flow (CFI)



Side Street Left Turn at Same Time as Main Left

Continuous Flow (CFI)



Alternative Intersection Concepts



Don't Allow the "Simple" Fourth Leg

Alternative Interchange Design



Not All Interchanges Need to be Complicated

Alternative Interchange Design

- Single-Point Urban Interchange (SPUI)
- Diverging Diamond
- Wide Loop Single Quadrant
- ⇒ Elevated U-Turns

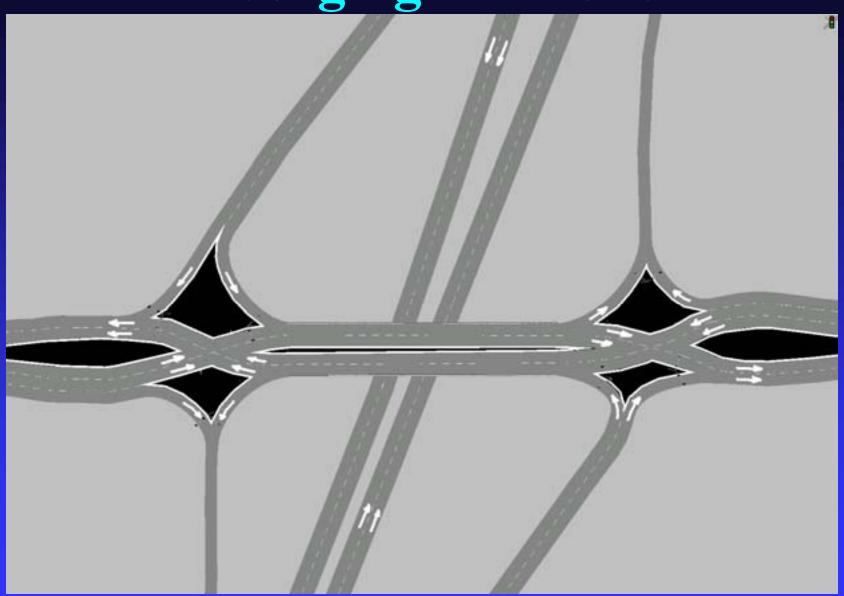
Single-Point Urban Interchange



SPUIs - Compact Design, Expensive Construction



Diverging Diamond



Diverging Diamond Design Missouri DOT





Diverging Diamond



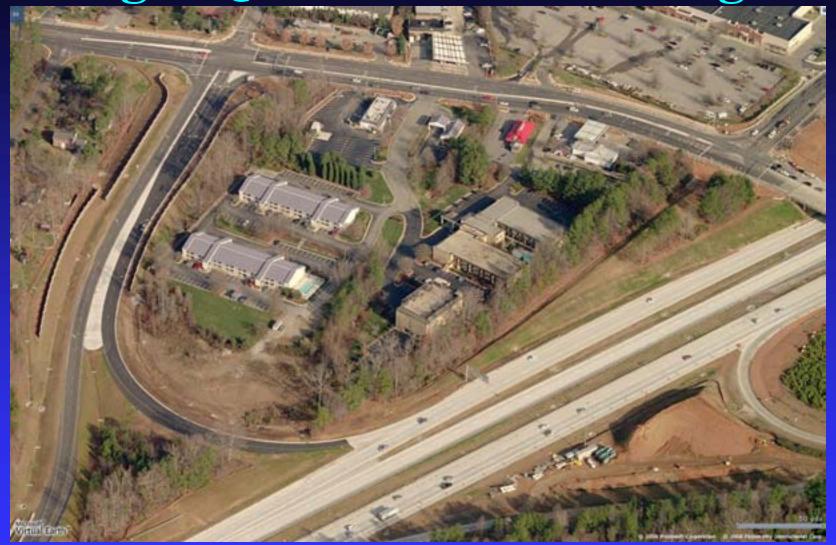
Single Quadrant Interchanges



Sometimes Additional Bridge is Less Expensive than Right-of-Way Acquisition



Single Quadrant Interchanges



Quadrant Interchange Simplifies Intersection



Elevated U-Turns



Found in Foreign Countries such as Malaysia

Elevated U-Turns



...the Philippines

Elevated U-Turn



...and New Jersey

Mission, Goals and Values

NCDOT

OUR MISSION

Connecting people and places in North Carolina – safely and efficiently, with accountability and environmental sensitivity

OUR GOALS

- Make our transportation network safer
- Make our transportation network move people and goods more efficiently
- Make our infrastructure last longer
- Make our organization a place that works well
- Make our organization a great place to work



OUR VALUES

- SAFETY We strive for safety throughout our transportation networks as well as in our work and our daily lives.
- CUSTOMER SERVICE We respond to our customers, both internal and external, in an open, professional and timely manner.
- INTEGRITY We earn and maintain trust by responsibly managing the states assets, acting ethically, and holding ourselves accountable for our actions.
- DIVERSITY We draw strength from our differences and work together in a spirit of teamwork and mutual respect.
- QUALITY We pursue excellence in delivering our projects, programs, services and initiatives.